

“THE Bone Doctor” of the Middle East – Dr. Samih Tarabichi

Contemporary expertise combined with advances in surgical techniques means that knee replacement procedures have almost become 'routine' and with an inordinate degree of accomplishment in restoring the basic functions of the joint. Dr. Samih Tarabichi, one of the Middle East's leading Emirati orthopedic surgeons who pioneered bone replacement surgery in the U.A.E and credited as the brainchild in the development of internationally-accepted custom-made patented implants for Asian and Arab patients, holds four patents in this field. He has performed over 10,000 total knee replacement procedures and has become the leading surgeon in the Middle East to perform knee replacement surgery using an innovative knee system that not only restores normal knee function but also offers enhanced durability which extends the working life of the joint for patients. During the period 1996-2012, he was Chairman, Department of Orthopedics at the American Hospital in Dubai and has now established the first center of excellence for joint replacement and advanced orthopedics in the Middle East – Burjeel Hospital for Advanced Surgery (BHAS) and Tarabichi's Centre for Joint Surgery and is also the Chairman for the prestigious International Congress for Joint Reconstruction – Middle East (ICJR)- the region's fastest growing educational and networking platform for joint replacement suppliers and practitioners by examining research and development both locally and internationally.

A seasoned consultant for Zimmer International and on the design team for a new generation of knee implants, Dr. Samih Tarabichi serves as the Director General of BHAS and Tarabichi's Centre of Joint Surgery – an orthopedic specialty hospital in Dubai dedicated to all orthopedic concerns through the multi-disciplinary, holistic approach where the backlog in the treatment of knee joint problems in the UAE and the Middle East will be addressed. The facility dovetails well with the Emirate's vision of being a hub for medical tourism and the rise in demand for bone and joint surgeries. Burjeel's knowledge of hospital operations and their international standards of healthcare management aim to complement Dr. Tarabichi's remarkable standing in his field.

Having practiced advanced orthopedics in the UAE for the past 20 years, he earlier trained in orthopedics at McGill University in Canada and practiced there for over 10 years. When he returned to the UAE, knee replacement was a rare procedure. However, he worked diligently to institute a program for joint surgery in Dubai and established the first joint registry at the American Hospital in Dubai as well as a fellowship training program for joint replacement which helped improve the quality of joint surgery in the Middle East. Dr. Tarabichi holds four orthopedics patents in the United States that cover various aspects of joint replacement surgery. He specializes in the characteristics of the Asian and the Arab knee and has published many papers in international medical journals on the differences between the European and Asian knee. In 2012, he had a scientific exhibit at the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons meeting at Los Angeles that addressed the special characteristics of the Asian knee as compared to the European knee.
